



Compulsory Military Training Bill Unanimously Defeated

Vote 58-22 As Opposition Is in Accord

By BERN PELLETIER

A bill instituting compulsory military training in Canada was defeated by a vote of 58-22 at last night's Model Parliament held in the Union Ballroom. The bill was introduced by the Progressive Conservative Club who formed the Government of the day while the Labor-Progressive Club formed the Official Opposition.

Of the four political parties represented, the Progressive Conservatives were the only ones who supported the measure. The other three, the L.P., the Liberals, and the C.C.F. joined forces, admittedly for different reasons, to defeat the bill.

Fundamentals

The bill was first presented by "Prime Minister" Clarence Fliske of the P.C. Government. He told the more than 100 people who attended the event that this bill did not interfere with the fundamental rights of man. As a matter of fact, he stated, the exact contrary was true.

Bill Discussed

He further said that the stigma against Universal military training is mostly psychological in nature. We have compulsory education in Canada therefore we should also have compulsory military training, he said.

Opposition

Camille Dionne, leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, stated that the bill will lead Canada further and further on the road to destruction. It is against the interests of the people of this country, he continued. "The bill is foreign and did not originate in Canada. The leaders of Wall Street say that our youth should be conscripted to fill the needs of the Atlantic Pact."

John Taylor, speaking for the Liberal Club, said "We agree that we should be prepared for war, but our budget is not large enough to allow for the training expenses. We must support our member nations in the Pact, but we should use funds for scientific research. The training program will curtail our economy, he concluded."

The speaker for the C.C.F., Maurice Kelly, said "we are against the bill. War cannot be avoided by preparing for it. United Nations has failed and it was our only hope. Even if the internal situation demanded military preparedness, would we still have a chance?" he asked. His concluding point was, "If we desire to maintain peace we must not prepare for war."

The final remarks of the Progressive Conservatives were "We should have compulsory training since attack from the enemy is possible if not probable. This training should be advanced in body as well as in mind. This will lead to better understanding and every one will learn about the entire country thus unifying Canada. The bill will also give the desired meaning to the Atlantic Pact."

DVA CHEQUES

DVA cheques will be available on Dec. 21 in the Student Council's office, announced Rev. E. Clifford Knowles, Student Councilor, yesterday.

Science Has Deprived Man Of Real Value Says Luchins

"Scientists have robbed us of our illusions about the world around us, and have given us nothing in return," stated Dr. A. S. Luchins in an informal talk on "Values in the Social Sciences" given before the Sociological Society yesterday. Thus people are forcibly deprived of any values which they might apply to nature.

"The old European theory was to think of everything as relative; if Europeans wear clothing, then South Sea Islanders should do the same, and since they do not, they are considered blatant sinners. The act was judged without consideration of the totally different environments."

"The German psychologist Wertheimer, one of the founders of the school of Gestalt psychology, urged that we consider an act and its ramifications outside of the situation itself. We must reconsider differences in behavior between people in order to find out whether or not they are true differences."

A&S New Year's Dance Will Feature Queen

The Arts and Science New Year's Eve Dance, which will be held in the McGill Union, will feature the choosing of a queen by popular vote.

This procedure is different from that of the past few years when a few students selected the Queen. The candidates will be paraded before the crowd and judges on a specially built platform.

The crowning will take place at 11.30 p.m. and soon afterwards the strains of Auld Lang Syne will ring in the New Year.

The Westernaires, with McGill graduate, Barbara Dornbush as vocalist, will provide the music of the evening.

U.B.C. Dept. To Sponsor Art Lectures

Vancouver, B. C.—(CUP)—The University of British Columbia is sponsoring a series of lectures on art throughout the province. The travelling lecturer, Artist Clifford Robinson, of the Extension Department, said, "I was impressed wherever I went, with the eagerness to learn," when he returned recently from the first tour.

Mr. Robinson gave lectures and demonstrations on theatre design to drama groups in many cities. His instructions in art, drawing and composition were welcomed in the various towns throughout B.C.

One of his most surprising discoveries was that although people streamed in from all districts for the classes, there were no "lunatic fringes" amongst them. They displayed a genuine friendliness, sharing their equipment with other people. Mr. Robinson's opinion was that on the average, very good work was produced.

He will leave soon to make an even more extended tour of the province. The new Extension service is becoming well-known in British Columbia.

Don Love Elected as New S.A.C. Chairman

Don Love was elected as the new chairman of the council to hold office until June, at a meeting of the Students Athletic Council on Tuesday, Dec. 13.

In addition to the election of the chairman, proposals were discussed for the formation of an "M" Club on the campus. This club would consist of all those students who had won their senior letters in any intercollegiate sport. The proposal was put forth by Vic Obeck, and a committee was appointed to work out the details for presentation at a later meeting. The Dress Committee, a sub-committee of the Council, and headed by Don Love, recommended the introduction of a suitable sweater to be worn by McGill students generally. This matter had been discussed at earlier S.A.C. meetings and the Dress Committee had been delegated to look into the matter. The Council expressed themselves in favor of the adoption of such a scheme.

NFCUS Opens Library Here In New Year

As the major phase of its publicity program, the McGill NFCUS Committee has formulated plans to establish a library during the first week of the new term. It will be located in the New Room of the Union, on the second floor, and will be open for approximately six hours daily.

This project will represent the most significant attempt yet made at McGill to familiarize the student body collectively, and each student individually with the achievements of the National Federation. It will be an important step towards the ultimate goal of the local committee—NFCUS-consciousness, so that the Federation may become truly representative of Canadian students.

The Library will include a varied assortment of NFCUS literature and information, such as a general history, digests of Conference reports, resumes of national and local projects, bulletins from national headquarters, and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings. It is hoped that also included will be handbooks, syllabi, and student newspapers from the twenty member universities of the National Federation.

Perhaps the most important function of the Library will be in providing comments and questions from the students. The reading material will be designed to stimulate discussions, not to stifle it.

The opening of the Library will be instrumental in leading up to the local NFCUS Conference which is being held on Jan. 21st. In conjunction with National Student Week. There will be an opportunity for every student to take advantage of these facilities in preparing for the discussions to take place at the Conference.

Undergrads Wanted for Xmas Dinner

Looking for a Christmas dinner?

The Graduate Society is practically begging for names of students who would like to spend a pleasant Christmas Day, complete with turkey and all that goes with it, with members of the society.

Last year there were more dinners offered by graduates than there were undergrads who weren't too shy to take advantage of the hospitality. The Graduate Society suspects that more undergrads would like to participate in this part of the society's program but doesn't know how to persuade undergrads who would like a Christmas "home-away-from-home" to get in touch with them.

Every effort will be made to place interested undergrads with grads who have followed the same line of studies at McGill. D. R. Fraser of the Graduate Society declared, to ensure that the undergrad will feel at home and will also have an opportunity to discuss his prospective profession with someone who has had experience in it.

Undergrads interested in a Christmas dinner with a member of the society should contact Ralph Shackell or Colin McCallum at the Union or Lorne Gales, general secretary of the Graduate Society, at BE 3087.

Acadians to Attend SCM Meeting Here

Acadia University has announced that it will send two delegates to the Student Christian Movement Conference. This brings to ten, the number of colleges to be represented at the conference. The conference, under the auspices of the S.C.M. of Sir George Williams College and McGill, will be held in Montreal from Dec. 27 to Jan. 1. It is the first S.C.M. conference ever to be held in Montreal.

Universities as far west as Winnipeg and as far east as Dalhousie will be represented. Delegates will also include a group from the New England States.

A Greeting From the Principal



When you read this, if aeroplanes maintain their schedules, I shall be flying across the frontier that now divides India from Pakistan.

Christmas does not belong to the religious observance of either Hindu or Moslem, but from this distant frontier I should like to send to each one of you my warm good wishes for a happy Christmas. I do not think it inappropriate, Lord Lotherian, when he called upon Mahatma Gandhi, was surprised to find that a picture of Christ was the sole personal possession of that great religious leader. To the question which that surprised Lotherian, the Mahatma is reported to have said, "Did not that great man teach truth?"

May I go further? I should like to suggest that the spirit of Christmas is the only spirit that will make possible the frontiers of this world, bringing peace and mutual happiness to men divided by opposing traditions and the memory of ancient wrongs.

The meteorologist will tell you that the outside temperature at this season of the year is almost as cold in northern India as it is in Montreal. I shall not argue that point. But I hope that your happiness this Christmas may be as warm as the greeting that I send you half across the world. May you enjoy to the full, each hour of the traditional holiday, and through your own happiness bring joy to all around you.

A Happy Christmas to each one of you, and the best of good wishes for the New Year!

F. CYRIL JAMES

Sweaters, Keys Awarded at Annual Scarlet Key Banquet

The annual Banquet of the Scarlet Key Society was held last night in the Union Dining Room under the chairmanship of outgoing President Robert Keefler. Outgoing members were presented with their Keys emblematic of dutiful service, and the new members were given their Sweaters for the coming year.

After the dinner Chairman Keefler introduced the honored guests who included Dean J. J. O'Neill, Assistant Principal of the university; Mr. T. H. Mathews, Registrar; Mr. Hay Finlay Professor of the Department of Physical Education; Mr. Neve Gordon, first president of the Society; Mr. Finnie Fletcher the only honorary member of the Society; Mr. R. A. Shackell, secretary of the Student's Society and Mr. Boyd Millen the speaker for the evening.

Mr. Fletcher told the members of the origin of the Society in 1923-24 after the McGill-Harvard football game, when the members of the team were so impressed by "The Green Key" (the Harvard counterpart of the Scarlet Key) that they came back and started one at McGill.

The Society started out with 35 members and since that time very few changes have been made in

the Constitution and the membership has remained constant—28 members elected from various faculties and 7 appointed by various athletic groups and societies on the campus. The uniform, designed by Major Stuart Forbes, has not changed in the past 25 years.

Mr. Neve Gordon introduced the speaker, Mr. Boyd Millen who stated that the Scarlet Key Society presented the members with opportunity to serve the Student body and thereby do themselves also a great amount of good. The speaker was thanked by the vice-president of the society, Douglas Robertson. The sweaters and keys were then handed out to the various members. Secretary Lorne Webster read the minutes of the 1948 annual meeting and Chris Bovey read the financial report. The new President, Hugh Brodie, welcomed the new members and gave plans for the coming year.

DAILY TO APPEAR

The first edition of the McGill Daily for 1950 will appear on the morning of Thursday, January 12.



SERVICE WITH A SMILE: Three leaders of the Scarlet Key which held its annual banquet last night. Left to right are Bob Keefler, last year's president, who turned the reins over to Hugh Brodie, centre, president for the next year; and John Read, president of the student body's official host during 1948.

Student's Society Meeting In Union Ballroom Today

McGill Victory In Debate on Modern Girl

McGill debaters were again successful in an intercollegiate debate against Sir George Williams College yesterday in the Union. John Ballon and Hazel O'Brien, taking the negative for McGill, defeated Bill Whittick and George Fisher representing Sir George Williams on the topic "Resolved that modern woman is falling her responsibilities."

The first speaker for the affirmative, Bill Whittick, stated that by modern woman it was meant in the majority of cases married women, and that she was not carrying out her responsibilities in home and family life. He condemned the fact that many women work and thus cannot spend her full time at home, thus leading to family frictions and finally divorce.

John Ballon, speaking for the negative, refuted the point that the majority of women are married, as shown in the shortage of men in Europe and elsewhere. He also felt that a woman who works does aid in a financial way in her home, thus fulfilling her duties.

George Fisher, the second affirmative speaker, felt that modern woman was contributing nothing to society as a whole. With all her social activities, modern woman neglects her home and family, and there results a breakup of the home.

Hazel O'Brien, the last speaker for the negative, said that women were contributing to society as a whole in teaching school, in Red Cross work, in nurseries, and many other aspects of modern life. In working, she helps in gaining an education for her children, and in going to social affairs with her husband, she performs an important function in married life.

Bill Whittick gave a rebuttal for the affirmative, saying that only 4.1 percent of divorces are caused by economic necessity, and thus the majority of women do not need to work. Professor Culliton, the senior judge, gave the verdict in favor of McGill and congratulated both sides on their fine efforts.

Daily Christmas Party To Choose Staff Queen

Novelty gifts will be exchanged by Daily staffers at their annual Christmas party Monday evening. The party, free to all members of the Daily staff, will take place at the Union on Monday, at 8 p.m. Each staffer is asked to bring an inexpensive, novelty gift worth about twenty-five cents.

A new feature of this year's party is the crowning of a Daily beauty queen. A judging committee of senior editors has been on the look-out for the beauties on the staff and their decision will be announced at the party on Monday.

Due to the lengthy program of activities, the party has been scheduled for 8 p.m., and all staffers are asked to be in the reading room at that time. The entertainment committee has planned a varied program for this annual event of the Daily.

I.R.C. Study Groups To Discuss Titoism

The McGill International Relations Club held a study-group organizational meeting last night in the Union New Room under the chairmanship of Paul Olivier. The purpose of the meeting was to form study groups, thus enabling larger student participation in the activities of the club.

Two study groups were formed under the leadership of Jacques Tetreault and Ian Fraser. At alternate meetings these groups present topics for discussion by the members at large. The first topic, which will be presented early in January by the group under Jacques Tetreault, will be "The Significance of Titoism and the attitude of the workers towards it."

The executive emphasized that the club membership requirements were by no means filled and that there was room for students and student groups. "Further on in the year," said Mr. Olivier, "we hope to have some speakers in to address the club, as was the policy last year."

Lennox Guest Speaker At Candlelight Service

Dr. Lennox, Principal of the Presbyterian College, will be the guest speaker at the candlelight carol service sponsored by the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship on Sunday, Dec. 18. The service is to be held at the Student House, 3445 Peel Street, at 9 p.m.

A special program has been planned. It will include Scripture readings and poems, solos, duets, quartets, and group singing of the "more familiar and well-loved carols."

Following the service there will be a fellowship period during which refreshments will be served.

Arts & Sc. I Sponsor Drive For Vets Gifts

A Christmas Gift Drive for hospitalized veterans sponsored by the Arts and Science I executive will be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week. Gifts will be placed under Christmas trees set up in the Arts and Engineering buildings, and the Union.

"Gifts such as cigarettes, magazines, books, cards, writing material, games, toilet articles, are suggested as gifts," it was announced by Marvin Gameroff, first year Arts and Science president. Each present must be separately wrapped in Christmas paper with a tag attached. The name of the donor as well as the contents of the gift are to be stated on the tag.

The drive is being sponsored by Marvin Gameroff, president of Arts and Science I, and Peter Kohl, president of the Veterans Society at McGill, with the Reverend E. Clifford Knowles as advisor. Colin McCallum, president of the Student Society, has also endorsed the project.

"It is not many years since the end of World War II, yet already many people seem to have forgotten those who gave their lives for us—and even more those who have given their health and limbs. Surely we, who have so much, can spare a little to give something to the men who have given so much for us," concluded Marvin Gameroff.

At Dawson Tomorrow Civil Service Rep.

Representatives from the Dominion Civil Service will visit Dawson College on Friday, Dec. 15, 1949, to interview applicants for Summer Employment.

The representatives will be available for interview in the Placement Service Office, Dawson College, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Application forms and additional information may be obtained at the same time.

Compulsory Frosh Athletics Topic of Forum Last Night

"Should Athletics be made Compulsory at a University?" was the subject of another interesting Radio Forum held last night under the auspices of the McGill Debating Society.

The most significant remark to come out of this Student-Professor forum was made by Vic Obeck as he disclosed the information that the Students Athletic Council and the Athletic Board had approved a plan of his which would make Athletics Compulsory for all first year students. This means that if the senate would approve of the plan it would be backed by these groups to the utmost.

Coach Obeck, who was the third speaker of the evening, listed several good reasons for the affirmative of the resolution. His main point revolved around the fact that all educators now realize the importance of not only developing the mental abilities of a student but increasing his physical abilities and enlarging his moral concepts as well.

There are certain compulsions for all students laid down by the

Rent Increase Is Subject of Society Motion

A motion protesting the recent Federal rent increases will be presented at the Students Society meeting to be held in the Union Ballroom today at 5 p.m. Also on the agenda is the tabling of a report by the Committee investigating the possibility of a Group Accident Insurance Plan.

The text of the Motion protesting the rent increase is as follows: "Whereas the recent Federal order permitting rental increases would cause extreme hardship to millions of Canadians; therefore be it resolved (1) that this Society forcefully protest the thoughtless attitude of the Federal Government in this action.

(2) demand that the Government of the Province of Quebec immediately institute standby rent controls pending the decision of the Supreme Court in this matter."

The Students Society meeting was held on October 26 in keeping with the constitutional requirement of one general meeting within a month after the term opens. This meeting was not official however as only 60 students showed up instead of the required 300 for a quorum.

GROUP ACCIDENT TABLED

Due to the small response given a recent questionnaire on a group Accident Insurance Plan, the S.E.C. tabled the matter until the next meeting of the Student's Society. The investigating committee is trying to find out whether the Student body is interested in a scheme of compulsory participation with low rates of voluntary participation on an individual basis. They are also trying to find out how many students are already covered by family accident insurance policies. The committee will present a full report on all the information gathered to date and will ask the student body whether they wish the committee to continue further investigation or not.

AMENDMENTS

The Amendment to the Constitution that will be presented for ratification today, the Senate having made a few small changes, is as follows:

To Article IV (an addition)

1. (e) All male partial students in the undergraduate faculties taking either one or two courses only, and not members of the Student's Society shall be required to pay an annual fee of \$5.00 this sum to be collected by the cashier with the tuition fees and divided as follows: McGill Union \$3.50 McGill Daily \$1.50

1. (f) All female partial students in undergraduate faculties taking either one or two courses, and not members of the Student's Society shall be required to pay an annual fee of \$5.00, this sum to be collected by the cashier with the tuition fees and divided as follows: Women's Union \$3.50 McGill Daily \$1.50

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"... Not a creature was stirring,
Not even a mouse ..."

A Review

MRT's Coriolanus

When William Shakespeare's Coriolanus, a play whose theme is the distrust of popular government and a criticism of democracy, was performed in Paris in 1934, it caused popular riots. The Montreal Repertory Theatre's studio production, which opened last night, recognized its significance for present-day theatre goers and the play was presented in modern dress to stress "the relevance of the play."

The MRT's approach was a semi-modern dress costume which featured tuxedos for Roman senators and red and green surcoats for the warriors.

The grandeur, sweep, and colour of the lines of this epic were slightly incongruous with the costumes and the sketchy set, and the "alarms and excursions" which filled this battle play sometimes seemed almost ludicrous, especially when all the talk of swords saw none on stage and the gory wounds of Coriolanus took the form of a dainty red daub on the forehead. Several excellent performances have been produced from the fate of a mock heroic. Kenneth Culley, as Menenius Agrippa showed an ease, variety, and force which were at the same time convincing and delightful to watch.

Rene Almond was especially good as Coriolanus' mother, ambitious for her son's success. Her best scenes were when she begged her son to swallow his pride and submit to the tribunes of the people, and later in Act IV, Sc. 2 when she rebuked them for his banishment. Christopher Plummer, as the Chief of the Volscian Senate, was excellent in a smaller role, and carried the scenes in which he appeared.

David MacCallan and Chel Braaten were sufficiently conspiratorial and snarling as the two tribunes, Velutus and Brutus. In his appeal to the mob, MacCallan was eloquent and convincing. Richard Easton as Aufidius, was an authoritative and forceful Volscian.

Your Roving Reporter

By GERALD N. F. CHARNESSE

Mid-term exams are just around the corner and the thought that comes to one's mind at this time is: should they be abolished? To find the answer we toured the campus, questioning both faculty members and students alike. The comments run something like this:

Dr. Solin, Assistant Dean of Arts and Science, had this to say: "Though it is true that some half-courses could be combined to form a full course, certain others could not. Many of these are very valuable and definitely should not be lost. A suggestion that might be made is that if student objection is serious enough the exams could be run off in December and the new term would start on the 6th of January."

In Cambridge they have what is called a mathematical tripos exam. This consists of no exams for four years, and then a big exam on everything. This of course gives a student a comprehensive knowledge of the subject, but would it work here?

"Artists never take a holiday" said Prof. John Lyman of Fine Arts, and therefore they should be asked to a study during Christmas for exams. The trouble is that students are all too ready to throw off all their development and during Christmas and black out education entirely. In Fine Arts holidays are merely times when students intensify their work."

Prof. Phelps commented, "Broadly speaking I don't like short attitudes on big subjects. In teaching I believe in the process of slow accumulation and involvement, that is, I like students to have time to

cian general but those qualities were generally lacking in Richard Gilbert's portrayal of Calus Marcius Coriolanus. Gilbert lacked the arrogance, fire, cholera, and "rough-popular riots. The Montreal Repertory Theatre's studio production, which opened last night, recognized its significance for present-day theatre goers and the play was presented in modern dress to stress "the relevance of the play."

Mary Hinton, Sheila Tremblay, and Robert Robinson were adequate in smaller roles while John Russell-Thompson turned in a good performance as the Roman general Cominius, despite a few lapses of memory. John Gibbon invested the Chief of the Roman Senate with the proper dignity.

The crowd of citizens, very important in Coriolanus, were badly directed. The actors made sounds instead of speaking words when the "rhubarb-bananna" type of hubbub was required, and this was painfully obvious. They moved clumsily and over-acted. Hilda Mulvany Gray as the second Roman citizen was excellent in the small part and did her best to save every crowd scene in which she appeared. The spontaneous applause which her performance drew from the audience was indeed well deserved.

The background music, from Henry V and Hamlet, would no doubt be more appropriate to other plays by Shakespeare. The final scene took its corpse-carrying directly out of Mr. Robert Helpman's ballet and was backed up by the "up-to-the-tower" music from Hamlet.

It is to be hoped that in future performances of the play the too frequent "fluffs" and lapses of memory will be rectified, the lighting will be improved, and something will be done about the crowd scenes.

Coriolanus will be presented to night, Saturday afternoon and evening.

— L. R. A.

Italian Consul To be Guest At Play Here

Prominent Italian personalities will be present at the play "As you desire me" to be presented at Moyses Hall tonight at 8.30 p.m., in honor of its distinguished author Pirandello. Among the guests will be the Italian Consul Dr. Ettore Staderini and his party who will be welcomed by the professor of Italian literature at McGill, Dr. Antonio D'Andrea.

The leading roles in the play will be portrayed by Nanette Bishop and Irving Simms will be the stage manager with assistant stage managers Sylvia Singer and Bill Macrae. Lighting and sound is being handled by Creighton Douglas and althea Douglas is in charge of costumes. Technical adviser is Frank Ford.

Moyses Hall will be decorated in the colors of Italy in honor of these guests.

Director-producer of "As you desire me" is Professor Elmer Hall and Irving Simms will be the stage manager with assistant stage managers Sylvia Singer and Bill Macrae. Lighting and sound is being handled by Creighton Douglas and althea Douglas is in charge of costumes. Technical adviser is Frank Ford.

Tickets are still on sale and may be obtained by contacting Professor Hall.

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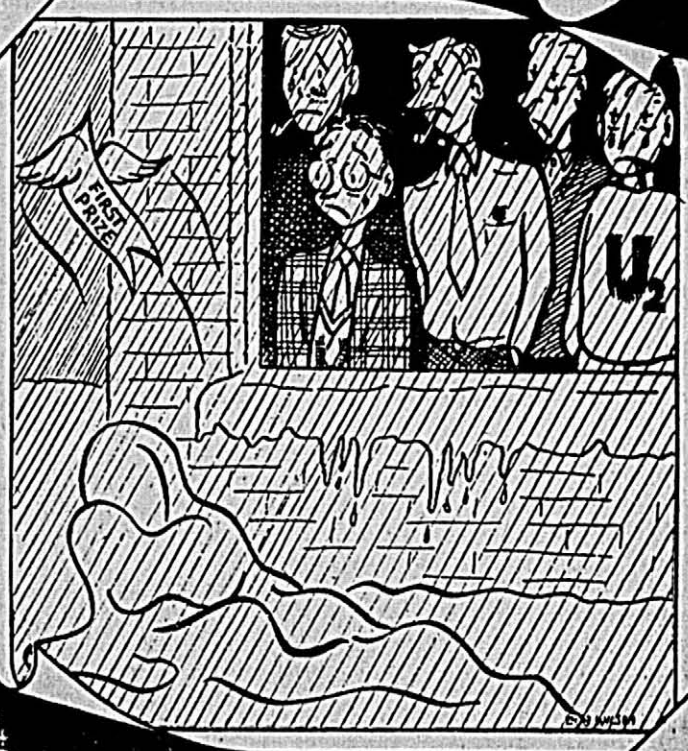
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To One and All A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

The Managing Board

SILENT NIGHT

We think it important that the managing board of The Daily make clear two main points with respect to the disapproval of a Daily editorial made by the Students Executive Council Wednesday night. We regret that a second motion, passed after the motion of disapproval, makes it impossible for us to comment on the discussion leading up to the motion of disapproval, but we can comment on the motion itself.

Our first point is that any member of the council could have written a refutation of the editorial in question and had it published last Monday—the only stipulation being that the councillor sign his or her name to such refutation. Though we talked to a majority of the council before Wednesday's meeting—which was five days after the disapproved editorial appeared—not one member of the council expressed disapproval of the editorial to us personally.

Our second point is that we wish to reaffirm

our belief that meetings of the Students Executive Council should be completely open as they are at other universities. It is rather strange that the McGill council should feel its meetings cannot be completely open to reporting, with each councillor speaking for publication.

A thousand students may want a certain motion passed at the Students Executive Council. Under the present arrangement the representation of this one thousand students is free to vote against any such desired motion and the thousands of students have no way of knowing how their representative voted or spoke at the council meeting. That, in our view, is not representation.

The managing board expresses its views openly for the student body to judge upon them. On the other hand, the Student Council apparently feels it should not be required to speak for publication. We think some fundamental principles of democratic government require more thought by the council.

C. K.

NO BRACES FOR CHRISTMAS

By STEPHEN LEACOCK

Let me say right at the start that I am just devoted to Christmas—Merry Christmas—no time in the year like it! It's all brightness and light, and Christmas trees with candles, and holly berries—with little children dancing in a ring and everyone—pretending to be a first class real fellow, and pretty nearly succeeding in it.

I was brought up on it, weren't you? It was a sort of family tradition—house all hung with mottoes of Merry Christmas, and cotton wool and red flannel. You had all that in your family too, didn't you? And your brother Jim always gave you a brother Dick a necktie every Christmas, just the same as the one which gave to Jim, and your mother paid for both of them, didn't she?—so as to teach the children to be generous.

And so; and in that case you'll agree with me that of all the side issues and extras that go with Christmas and make it what it is, there isn't one that for warmth and character is in it with Christmas Shopping! The pleasure of anti-pation, that warm glow about the heart, eh! That joy in generous giving far ahead of getting anything for yourself. That's you, isn't it? Yes, I'm sure it is.

Doesn't it get you? Anyway, I want to have my say and give my advice about it, even if it is largely made up of "don't," and of warning you what not to do.

First—Be very careful about that idea of starting Christmas shopping early in the year, right back in January or February when things are being sold off. I tried that out a year or so ago. There's nothing in it.

I went downtown in January and picked up a bird cage, and a pair of braces (boy's size). I admit, the things were cheap. The bird was only 80 cents and it was worth eight dollars. The man in the shop admitted this himself. But it's been good to me. I know no one with a bird. People don't seem to keep birds now. Yet this is a fine

cage, big enough for a penguin, with a bar for it to swing on and little spaces where you put in food and water, and other little spaces where you take out whatever you take out. Too bad, I can't use it. I may offer it in a raffle for a charity. However, let it go.

The other item was the braces—60 cents and worth two dollars—suitable for a boy of 14, but with a little wheel to jack them up to a boy of 16. Boys grow so fast—all mothers and fathers will get the idea of that little wheel. But I want to speak about these 60 cent braces, and I want to speak seriously and especially to mothers and fathers. That's no present to give to a boy, and you know it! You don't understand me? Oh, yes, you do. You've no right to give a boy something useful—something he's got to have. To give a boy for Christmas a pair of braces, or six collars, or an overcoat or a pair of winter mitts or anything that's useful and that he has to have and that you've got to buy for him sooner or later, is just a low-down trick unworthy of the spirit of Christmas.

Those braces—I never gave them away. I have them still. As I stood with them in my hand thinking where to send them, my mind conjured up a picture of how I felt, long ago, over 60 years ago, when I opened my stocking one Christmas and found, all wrapped up in boxes and parcels that might have been filled with magic, just such junk as that. There was a little round hard box with a tight lid that might have turned out to be magic music, or God knows what—for a child's imagination outstrips reality—but it was only collars. I had hard work to choke back tears. And after that—flat and long and mysterious—was a box that might have held—why, anything! Derringer pistols, Cherokee daggers, anything! But did it? No. It had in it a pair of braces just like these, wheel and all. That

broke me down.

There is no blame; all parents do it, must do it, in such a crowded family as ours was, with a census that went up each year.

Give those braces away? No sir. Give them to some poor child? No sir. There is no child so poor that I should wish that evil gift upon him. I wear those braces myself, wheel and all, between the shoulder blades, as a monk wears a hair shirt, to remind me of the true spirit of Christmas.

But it is getting late—way after 9 o'clock. I must start at once; the shops close at midnight.

(This article, reprinted from the C-I-L Oval, was specially written for the December 1939 issue of that publication.)

Cosmo Club to Hold Xmas Party Dec. 20

The Cosmopolitan Club will hold its annual Christmas Party on Thursday, Dec. 20 in the Union Ballroom at 8.30 p.m.

Decorations, dancing, and refreshments will be featured. "We hope that the refreshments will be of a 'black horse' nature," said Tony Mantzavinos, president.

"It is expected that at least twelve nationalities will be represented, and that the same friendly, informal atmosphere of the last Cosmopolitan Club party will be prevalent."

One of the decoration features will be a Christmas tree, and in keeping with the festive season, song sheets of carols are being printed so that everyone can join in the holiday spirit.

Tickets are 50c per person and can be obtained in the Union Tuck Shop.

WANTED

A set of typed Commercial Law Notes immediately. Phone Dave at DO-9184.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE DAILY

A Visit to Santa

by EMILY HICK

HURRY UP, Elizabeth!" The woman, irritable after a long day of shopping, dragged the unwilling child through the crowded department store. "If you don't come along right away you won't be able to see Santa Claus at all, and then he won't bring you anything for Christmas. Now, you wouldn't like that, would you?"

The child cringed as the woman's sharp words drew the weary attention of the Christmas shoppers.

It was such a lovely teddy bear, she was thinking, so soft and cuddly. She wanted to take it with her, and ask Santa Claus to let her take it home right away. Santa Claus. It would be wonderful to see him again, after waiting a whole year. His beard always tickled, but he had such a nice smile.

She saw the long line of eager children, and then caught sight of Santa in the distance. He looked so big, sitting on his raised throne, but so kind. She couldn't wait to snuggle into his welcome arms.

Elizabeth saw another furry bear, and reached out to touch it gently.

"Elizabeth! We can't stop to look at everything. There isn't really time to wait and see Santa Claus, with all those children ahead of us," she mused, half to herself.

"Oh, Mummy! Please?" She lifted her pleading eyes to the woman's face.

"I'll tell you what — you wait in line, and I'll be back in a few minutes."

Elizabeth watched her thread her way through the crowd, and wondered vaguely if she would be able to find her when she came back. She'd rather stay with Santa anyway. He was so big — how could he ever come down the chimney without hurting himself? Especially with a full pack of toys? Maybe his reindeer threw it down to him afterwards. Or maybe they helped him fill the stockings. She had longer stockings this year. She would pick out her very longest and hang it up over the fireplace — maybe that was not fair. If everyone picked out his longest stocking, Santa would have so much work. She would use an old one, after all.

Suddenly Elizabeth remembered breaking her mother's beautiful china vase, and how angry her mother had been. She wondered if Santa knew all about it, and if he wouldn't bring her any presents after that. He had called her name over the radio, though, as one of the good boys and girls, so maybe he didn't know.

The child sighed heavily, and began to wish her mother would come back. She would have to tell him about the vase.

Now she was close enough to hear what he was saying, and she listened.

"An electric train with lots of cars? Well, Billy, that's a pretty heavy order, but I'll see what I can do."

Elizabeth didn't want an electric train. Boys asked for such silly things, but then they were silly, anyway. She didn't like them. They always thought they knew everything, and they were so noisy.

"Hello, Santa," she said, looking up at him shyly, as she twisted the buttons on her coat.

"Why, hello there! And what's your name?"

"Elizabeth. Don't you remember?"

"Yes, of course, Elizabeth. But you've grown up a lot. Why, you're a big girl now!"

"Did I really grow?" Her eyes shone hopefully.

"You certainly did! And what would you like for Christmas this year?"

"I just want — just a teddy bear, Santa," she whispered close to his ear. "Please? With lots of soft fur, so I can sleep with it!"

"Why, I think I might — if you're a good little girl."

"Oh." It was a very small oh. "But I'm not, because —" Her voice trailed into nothingness.

"You're not —"

"No, you see, I broke it — Mummy's vase, I mean. But I couldn't help it. It just sort of — fell. It made an awful noise."

"Well, if it was an accident, you can still expect Santa to bring you something for Christmas."

"Oh, thank you!" She kissed him on the cheek, and then blushed and ran down to her waiting mother.

"Oh, Mummy, do you know what he said?"

"Never mind what he said now. You can tell me about it on the way home." The two pushed their way of the store, and home.

Elizabeth sat on the steps, swinging her feet and humming to herself. One of the neighbourhood boys came up to talk to her.

"Bet you don't know where I've been!" she bragged.

"Where?"

"To see Santa Claus. And he said he'd bring me a teddy bear."

"Santa Claus?" snorted the boy. "Why, there isn't any Santa Claus. Don't you know that?"

"Yes, there is. There is so." Her little voice wavered.

"No. It's your mother and father. How could he ever visit all the kids in the world on one night all by himself? Why, he couldn't even do our street in one night."

"He could so." She rubbed her overshoes together, and they squeaked.

"And his reindeer can't fly over the roofs, either. And he couldn't carry enough toys for everybody, either. You just wait," he finished, "I bet you won't even get your teddy bear, and then you'll know."

With a wailing cry, Elizabeth rushed over to the boy, and beat her fists blindly against his chest.

"I hate you!" she sobbed wildly. "I hate you!"

The Night Before

by BEVERLEY HORTON

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through McGill
Not a pencil was stirring, not even a quill;
The students were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of mid-terms danced through their heads;
The three stony bays shivered out in the snow,
While the Ginkgo groaned sadly and bowed itself low;
Old Redpath sighed lustily, rattling its stacks,
As the wind whistled loudly through crannies and cracks;
The clock in the Arts Building wrinkled its face,
Clasping its hands as it gazed off in space;
The Cyclotron slumbered, quite snugly locked in,
Along with the Union, who missed all the din;
The Redpath doors whispered, and told strange old tales
Of when professors wore gowns, and most students were males.
The Biology Building broke out into song,
With Divinity Hall and its gay portrait throng;
Then the icicles danced on the Roddick Gates grey,
While on Sherbrooke Street busses rushed by on their way.
Fat Martlets played three-handed bridge the night through,
But their voices were heard, though loud the wind blew;
And I heard them exclaim, ere they passed from my sight —
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"



Oh no dear, next Christmas!

Christmas Customs

by ELINOR KYTE
Chief Staff Writer

By ELINOR KYTE
Chief Staff Writer

The merry hustle of shopping, mailing colorful cards of greeting, racing to the registrar's office for railway ticket forms and finishing term examinations—all these indicate the approach of Christmas to most McGill students. But to about 200 European students, the festive atmosphere serves to recall customs observed in their native countries.

FRANCE

"I remember hundreds of little boys dressed in white and singing the most beautiful hymns," said Roberta Lander, second year Arts student, when she recalled many Christmas seasons spent in Paris, where she finished high school.

"At midnight on Christmas Eve, everyone goes to Notre Dame de Grace Cathedral, where there is the most magnificent service with Bach music," she added.

The usual lack of snow makes it seem less like Christmas, but the gay, festive atmosphere counteracts this, she stated. The Christmas dinner has numerous courses with each food served on a separate plate. During dinner, wine serves to loosen tongues and add a spark to the activities.

On New Year's Eve the mammoth Carnival is staged when jovial policemen allow the masquerading Paris mobs to jostle them good-naturedly, dancing and singing, laughing and joking. Only near the opera do the policemen interfere with the Carnival crowd enough to allow traffic to pass freely.

RUSSIA

Spruce or fir trees artistically decorated with angel hair and colorful bells and topped with a bright star, are part of the Christmas celebrations in the Ukraine, continued Miss Lander, who is familiar with customs in Russia and Poland as well as in France.

"Borsch," the traditional Russian dish made up of beets and other vegetables with pork inside, is the most important item on the dinner menu.

Before beginning dinner on Christmas Eve, all the family go to church. Upon their return, they enter the dining room where hay is spread over the floor and other ornaments symbolize the manger. A piece of each type of food prepared for the banquet is taken to the stables for the animals as a token of sharing the prosperity and happiness of the occasion.

Then as the family gathers for the dinner, the familiar greeting "God is born, Rejoice!" echoes through the house, and eager hands seek the favorite "kutia," a dish composed of boiled corn, sugar, honey and raisins.

Russian housewives, long familiar with the work involved after dinner, have solved the problem by having all the courses eaten from one plate.

The melodious strains of a guitar sounding across the glistening snow, the clinking of vodka glasses (a drink made from potatoes and rye), the friendly visit of the priest and conferring of his blessing, and the sound of merry voices singing old hymns; all symbolize Christmas Eve.

POLAND

Christmas celebrations in Poland are quite similar to those in the Ukraine, said Miss Lander. The trees are decorated with chocolate and sugar candy. Children, dressed to represent angels and animals, travel from house to house in the villages. They carry a beautiful miniature scene of the birth of Christ.

The rich folks go hunting and bring home rabbits to be prepared for the feast. In most homes, however, "borsch" is the main Christmas dish. It contains more beets than its Russian counterpart. Floating temptingly on top of the dish are meat triangles. Besides vodka, the Polish enjoy wine during their meal.

ESTONIA

Excitement and laughter accompanies the Estonian families as they deck their horse sleds with the finest blankets and start off for church in the afternoon. Upon their return, the white candles decorating the Christmas trees are lit.

"I've never heard of any trees catching fire," stated second-year Arts student, Doris Markson, a native of Estonia, when she was asked about the danger of this practice which has lost its place in America to electric lights.

Another Estonian native, Leana Bellow, second-year Arts student, described the Christmas dinner. "The most important foods are pork, blood sausage, and pickled cabbage."

After dinner Father Christmas arrives with a sack containing gifts for everyone. He usually sports a long white beard and a bright red coat. To obtain their gifts, the children must recite or sing for Father Christmas. The "bad" children (those who refuse to perform) are gently swatted with twigs by Father Christmas.

Although many of the customs will remain only a memory for European students at McGill, these students are looking forward to increasing their repertoire of Christmas celebrations by enjoying Canadian customs this season.

CHRISTMAS

Solemn
And still
Lie the cold, white hills.
And fields lie solemn and coldly
white;
Save where,
Through the frosty air,
A yellow pane gleams through
the silence of the night.

The deep-toned bells
Of the village church
Have ceased their distant ringing
over silent, snowy hills.

When . . .

With a clatter and a jingle,
Clack of hoofs and sleighbell's tinkle,
Neighing of the little reindeer

tells the coming of Kriss
Kingle. . .
Rosy face and snowy hair,
Scarlet jacket trimmed with
fur, . . .
Children in their coats all sleep-
ing faintly smile and slowly stir.

Then . . .
Hear the patter on the roof
Of the tiny cloven hoofs. . .
He is gone!
And once again
Solemn cold and silence reign,
The cold white hills
Lie
Solemn
And still.

Holiday for Bill

by MILTON WINSTON

LITTLE crystal-white flakes floated delicately down from a serene grey-clouded sky. Whispers of snow swept across the pavements. The buildings stood erect, covered with a still blanched blanket.

A faint tinkling bell broke the quietness. Two small children pranced through the thinly packed snow, amazed at their foot-prints.

"Jingle bells, jingle bells," sung one of them in a shrill unmelodious voice.

"Jingle all the way," answered the other.

"Gee, ain't it fun to play in the snow! Hey Bill, betcha I have a better Christmas than you. I betcha."

Bill didn't answer, he continued to prance in the snow; yet not with as much force as before.

"Hey Bill," said the first, "betcha. Bill's scared to bet, Bill's a scaredy cat."

"I don't have any Christmas. My mother told me there ain't such a thing."

"Honest, Bill?" questioned the first. "Gee, no Christmas, or trees or lights. No presents at all. How come?"

"My mother told me I'm Jewish, and good little Jewish boys don't believe in Christmas."

"Not even Santa Claus?" inquired the boy.

"Nope, not even Santa Claus."

A faint touch of snow fell from the sky. The streets were virgin white, untouched. A silence pervaded the air, except for the tinkling bell.

"Mom, are you in?" asked Bill as he entered his home. He threw his peak-cap onto the clothes rack, just making the iron rung. "Mom," Bill insisted after finding that his mother was in the kitchen, "can I see you for a minute. I got something to ask you."

He entered the kitchen, sat down on one of the chairs, wrinkled his brow and proceeded to ask questions.

"Mom why am I Jewish, huh Ma? Why can't I have a tree like all my other friends? Gee I want to have a tree with all the lights. Boy would it be fun; I could keep it in my room. Nobody would know about it. Huh Ma?"

A faint flicker of light from the lamp post across the street shone through the frosty kitchen window. Bill's mother stopped ironing a moment to straighten up. She pushed a wisp of white hair back into place, and thought.

"Son," she began a little hesitatingly, "why you're Jewish is a long story — a story that I can't answer until you can begin to understand. It's deeper than you or me. Someday son, you will understand. It's a long fight, a long struggle for decency and hope."

Bill looked at his mother. He couldn't understand her words. "As for Christmas, son, you have something that is as fine, as full of pride as your friend's holiday. On this same day years ago a tyrant tried to destroy your people. His name was King Antiochus of Syria. He tried to make the Jews cringe and throw aside their beliefs."

"But Judah Maccabee rallied many of the countryside around him. He organized a force of men to fight the invaders."

"Like commandos," interrupted Bill his eyes wide with interest.

"Like commandos, Bill. And a miracle happened with strength from their God, and faith in their creed the invaders were beaten back. When Judah entered the Holy Temple in Jerusalem he saw that the invaders had destroyed the sacred oil, except for one day's supply. But the oil burned for eight days and eight nights until more could be made."

"Now we celebrate these eight days with eight days of festival called Chanukah. We give presents, play special games, eat potato pancakes and light the candles. We have the same kind of holidays as your friends, but with different meanings, Bill. Why don't you invite them over here, and show them your Menorah candle sticks. Show them how to play your games."

"Oh thanks, mother," cried Bill and he ran over to kiss her.

The day passed quickly, night was over and another day had commenced. A bright sun glared down from a clear sky. Millions of crystals sparkled on the streets.

"Hey Bill," came a boy's voice, "can I come to you're party, huh?"

"O.K." answered Bill.

"Bill, my mother said that when our tree is all lit up you can come over. Will you come, eh Bill?"

"O.K." said Bill, "come on over to my house now, I want to show you my candle sticks and games."

The boys took each others hands and went towards Bill's home. The sun shone brightly, an air of peace and tranquility filled the atmosphere. A feeling of fraternity, of good-will, and hope was there.

Christmas Food Past and Present

By GOLDIE CAPLANSKY

The fumes of roast turkey with all the trimmings, delicious mince pies and steaming plum puddings will attempt to soothe the homesick pangs of McGill students who are unable to go home for Christmas dinner.

The dietitians of the men's and women's residences have planned a mouth-watering menu, including fruit bowls celery and olives, stuffed turkey and gravy, cranberry sauce, whipped potatoes, green peas, plum pudding (R.V.C.), mince pie (Wilson and Douglas Hall), hard sauce, coffee and mints. Swallow.

Residents of Wilson Hall will probably join the students of Douglas Hall for Christmas dinner.

This year is the first since the

war years that R.V.C. is remaining open during the holidays. Florence Burroughs and Barbara Hutchison, who will remain at R.V.C. this Christmas, are as yet undecided whether they will eat at the cafeteria or not during the next few weeks. "I guess we'll get together and cook," remarked Barbara. Kitchen. His dispersal through the building are there expressly for that purpose.

TURKEY

Turkey, surprisingly enough, is a fairly recent North-American innovation. A wild boar's head, roasted or boiled, was the fashionable fare until about 1250, when the boars began to feel the pressure of Christmas appetites, and became extinct.

Queen's College, Oxford, still celebrate Christmas with the traditional boar's head (Continued on Page 6)



Aussie Morgan and the Christmas Parade

by J. G. L. SLATER

HE little heels scuffed along the side-walk, beating a faint rhythm into Morgan's thoughts.

The idiosyncy of it all jarred his sense of the obvious; singing about snow and cradles with the mercury hopping about the 100 degrees F. mark; stuffing the kids with all this nonsense about Santa Claus. Why Jack Baker was Santa Claus for the Marlow Emporium this year — Boozie Jack Baker, they used to call him down on the docks.

That kid's shoes were too big by half, funny how that scratch and scrape of boot leather on cement got on his nerves.

Boozie Jack — Father Christmas! The idea made him laugh. He was pretty broadminded himself he reckoned, he was as though as the rest of them, but he couldn't have brought himself to fool the kids like that. Handing out toys for the Marlow Emporium advertising stunt!

That kid's bag looked kind of heavy — maybe if he took hold of it for the little so-and-so it'd stop scaping his shoes.

"Carry your bag, Snowy?"

Amazing! If he'd had a hundred quid he'd have handed it over. Morgan thought back to when he was a kid. In those days you were careful what you gave strange men. Kind of flattering though, to have someone trust him like that.

"Have to wait here Snowy — they've blocked the bleeding street for bleeding old Santa Claus."

"Gawd, old Boozie Jack himself, all done up in red and cotton wool. Bet you could have lit a match in his breath and caused an explosion."

"What's that Snowy? Who's that out there in the street with the cows pulling the red wagon? Well I'll tell yer. It's damn old B —"

... It's Santa Claus! What! Who's Santa Claus? Sure, you know who's Santa Claus! Come on up on me shoulder, so's you can see. You know Santa Claus. Feller comes every year just for youse kids — hands out toys and all. Jolly Old B — er, — feller, is Santa Claus."

And he's so filthy drunk he doesn't know where's the rump of his reindeer.

Mr. Claus, I Presume

Asks Milton Winston

"Mr. Claus, I presume," I said as I stepped out from the dog-team hired by The Daily for this assignment. The area was covered by tons of white sparkling North Pole snow. In the centre of this vast whiteness stood a huge figure of a man, his clothes red as his nose.

"Mr. Winston, senior staff writer, I gather," he remarked. "I have been reading some of your stories. Tut, tut, tut, Mr. Winston, I see where you will find coal in your stocking."

"But Santa, if I may be so bold as to call you by your first name, I was a good boy this year. I even worked overtime on The Daily."

"Condemned, but let us get on to other topics. What do you wish to see me about?"

"Well, Santa it's like this. The boys, that is The Daily staffers, are worried that they will be forgotten this year. We want you to set a definite policy. We are used to being presented with a definite policy."

Santa whistled and a trapdoor opened in the snow; we entered and arrived into a well-heated cabin. Small little elves were working diligently constructing the toys.

We arranged ourselves comfortably around the fire. Mrs. Claus served chilled lemon juice.

"About The Daily crew," Santa began, "now let me see, I must have the list somewhere around." He went through his pockets and came up with a long list of articles. "Ah here it is," he said while placing his spectacles on his ruddy nose. "Let's see, to start with, there is a special present for the Editor in Chief."

I bowed towards the east when he mentioned the name of Clyde Kennedy, omnipotent and omnipresent master of The Daily.

"For Clyde, we have something special. A tie that lights up in the dark with three letters on it." I asked him what the three letters were, he whispered them to me so Mrs. Claus wouldn't know. All Daily staffers should have memorized them by now.



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Christmas and Professor Wopsle

By Edmund Reid

What does a professor do during the Christmas holidays? Professor Watson S. Wopsle seemed an excellent choice for an interview on the subject; he is head of the Department of Obscurities and probably one of the best known personalities at McGill.

Professor Wopsle came to the



door of his office in answer to my knock.

"Come in, come in, stoo-dent!" he cried warmly. "Looking for him on the mid-term, are you?" (Professor Wopsle, as you probably know, is a born humorist.)

"We are wondering," I began, "what professors do during the Christmas vacation and we decided to interview you as an excellent example of the profession."

"Well!" he exclaimed laughing. "I don't know whether I would agree with that estimation. However I shall do my best to answer your question."

"One of my annual Christmas projects is the finding of new jokes for my lectures. You see there are always some stoo-dents who have failed to make the grade during the previous year and so are repeating the course. While some—shall we say—unimaginative colleagues of mine will repeat the same witticisms year after year, I feel it a moral duty to add something for those who are taking the course for the second time."

"Would you mind telling me, sir," I asked, "just where you gather your amusing material?"

"Many years ago I came across an old book of jokes by a man named Miller, which has been in-

valuable to me ever since. However, I must admit that some of the material is—If you will pardon a colloquialism—corny!"

We both laughed heartily.

"In addition I intend to have fun with three new books on Obscurity by outstanding authors." It appears that Professor Wopsle, in common with most other professors, still lectures from the material he prepared twenty-five years ago. But being progressive, he has added to this with each new development in the study of Obscurity, until, as he said, "Stoo-dents in my courses now learn probably five times as much as they did—ah—fifteen years ago." For which the students are doubtless very grateful.

"Naturally I have some theories of my own," he continued. "Every professor has some. I found a long time ago that no one else agreed with me, so refused to argue. But I have my little fun; each year I show my stoo-dents that these other theories are complete humbug, and mine is the only correct conception."

He chuckled at his clever dodge. "But to return to the topic under discussion. Christmas time is a family festival, and attending to my family keeps me very busy, let me assure you. I still have a good deal of Christmas shopping to do for Mrs. Wopsle and the kiddies."

Here he showed me a picture of his family, and a very charming little group they made.

"On Christmas morning I always dress up with a white beard and a red hat—as Santa, you know. Gives the children a bit of a treat. If my stoo-dents could only see me then!"

Professor Wopsle, for all his dignity before a class in Mouse Hall, is a warm-hearted family man. Yet he has his serious side too, as I discovered when the conversation shifted to a discussion of world affairs as they affect us this Christmas. The professor has an amazing grasp of current events and commented freely on the news of the day. He is wasting his time

in the Department of Obscurities. Professor Wopsle is capable of being one of our foremost statesmen.

And strangely enough this ability is common among all professors, as students well know. They can tell us the solution for all the troubles of the world without the slightest hesitation. Rise to the challenge, professors of McGill! Leave the lecture rooms! Lead the peoples of the world to a better way of life, to a glorious future!

However, to return to my interview with Professor Wopsle.

"You might mention in your article," he said, "that I intend to make a trip to Dawson College early in the New Year. I regret to admit that I have never been to the place. My colleagues at the Faculty Club have warned me against the venture. Winter, they say, is no time to visit the frozen



wastes of Dawson, and they cite the example of a member of the faculty, who lost his way between T 1 and T 2 and was only found after prolonged search. The poor fellow was apparently revived by—the ah—alcoholic breath of one of the searchers who had just returned from St. Johns.

"They tell me also that the place is inhabited by a semi-civilized mob of engineers. Yet I feel sure there are many lovers of culture and learning at Dawson, and I am preparing an address, which I will deliver during my visit, on 'The Ramifications and Edifying Features of Obscurity in its Relationship to Modern Science.'"

Professor Wopsle glanced at his watch.

"Good Heavens! I regret to say we must terminate this interview immediately, because I am due at the Faculty Club. I am helping to decorate the Christmas tree, you know."

"Merry Christmas!"

Foreign Christmas Customs Described by Choristers

Besides featuring music by composers of many nations, the Choral Society boasts as its members students from distant places.

One of the students coming from the farthest away is David Byrd from Durban, Natal, South Africa. This place has a historical interest, for Natal (which translated into English means 'birthday') was named by Vasco da Gama on his voyage around the world. De Gama reached Natal on Christmas Day 1497, so he named it for the birthday of Christ.

In South Africa, Christmas occurs in the late spring or early summer, therefore it is much warmer than we are accustomed to here in Canada.

Choral singing is very popular here, especially among Young Peoples' Societies and Church Guilds. Many groups get together and go out carolling. One of their favorite carols is the modern "The Little Road to Bethlehem" by Michael Head. The McGill Choral Society will be featuring it in their concert which is taking place tomorrow night.

Scotland In direct contrast to the warmth of the West Indies is Alfred Orr's home in Glasgow, Scotland. Here a group called "The Orpheus Choir" is very active during the Christmas season. Church choirs put on many special concerts, and "The Messiah" is also a very popular work.

Newfoundland From Canada's newest province comes Mona Hounsell. She says that in St. John's many of the churches give recitals, and also the college choir. The favorites here are mainly the old familiar carols, such as "O Come All Ye Faithful," "Silent Night," and "We Three Kings." These and many other old favorites have been arranged as

audience participation carols in the Choral Society's concert, "Sing At Christmas" being held in the Sir Arthur Currie Gymnasium, tomorrow night.

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Paul Wing, Narrator with Russ Case and his Orch.
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TODAY Students' Society Meeting

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COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 16
SCM

There will be a Christmas party Friday, Dec. 16 at 8:30 at 3625 Oxenden Avenue. Admission 15c. Members are urged to make reservations in advance.

CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Dr. H. S. Taylor of Princeton University will speak tonight, Friday, Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. in the Main Auditorium of the Chemistry and Mining Bldg. All undergraduate and graduate students are invited.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

This department is presenting, for one performance only, Pirandello's "As You Desire Me" in Moyle Hall on Friday, Dec. 16, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets \$1.00 (tax included) available at the door.

DECEMBER 17
HILLEL

Annual Chanukuh party, Saturday, Dec. 17 at 8:30 p.m.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

All Physiotherapy students are invited to annual Christmas Tea given by students of School for Graduate Nurses. Beatty House, 3-6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17.

RED & WHITE REVUE

General Rehearsal of first act, Saturday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

CHINESE STUDENTS

Christmas Dance at S.C.M. House, Saturday, Dec. 17 at 8:30 p.m. Admission 50c per person or 75c per couple. Further information from Agnes Jue, HA. 8036.

POST-GRAD MEN'S BOWLING

The men's bowling team is in process of organization in order to take part in intra-mural competition. A practice will be held Saturday, Dec. 17 at 12:30 p.m. in the Pines Bowling Alleys, Park Avenue.

DECEMBER 18
MOC

Snow permitting, there will be a cross-country ski trip, Dec. 18, Ste. Marguerite to St. Sauveur on Maple Leaf Trail. Take Sunday morning train from Windsor Station and disembark at Ste. Marguerite.

NEWMAN

Musical Christmas program is being provided for the regular meeting Sunday, Dec. 18 at Sacred Heart Convent.

DECEMBER 20
NEWMAN CLUB

On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from now on there will be a short reading at beginning of Mass 7.45 to increase understanding of its meaning. Mass is offered in Newman House Chapel.

MOC

Christmas party in B.W.F. room of the Gym at 8:30 p.m., Tuesday evening. Strictly Stag. Admission 25c per person. Dress: Square dancish. Modern and square dancing.

HILLEL

Meeting regarding trip to Israel this summer, Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 1 o'clock at Hillel House.

DECEMBER 30
I.V.C.F.

Christmas Ski party at Marin Heights, Friday, Dec. 30 to Monday, Jan. 2. Further information from Bert McGee, HA. 9462 before Wednesday, Dec. 21.

DECEMBER 31
C.O.T.C.

The University Selection Board will commence interviewing applicants for enrolment in January, 1950. Personnel concerned will be notified by mail as regards time and place of interviews.

C.O.T.C.

New Year's Eve Annual Informal "At Home" in the mess. Dress optional.

EATON'S

EATON'S CHRISTMAS STORE HOURS: 9:30 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M.
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THE T. EATON CO. LIMITED
CANADA

Christmas Food—P. 3

when they can find one, and adorn it with all the trimmings, including the placing of a lemon in the beast's mouth.

BOAR'S HEAD

Next in importance to the appetizing boar's head came the peacock. The bird's skin with the adhering plumage was carefully stripped off. The poor peacock was then roasted sans finery, stuffed with spices and sweet herbs, basted with the yolk of an egg, and served with plenty of gravy. Before presenting the dish on the table, the peacock's feathers were sewed back on, its beak was gilt, and sometimes its whole body was covered with leaf gold. A piece of cotton soaked in spirits, was then placed in the bird's beak, and lit.

Our turkey may subdue its gobble in shame.

PLUM PUDDING

Plum pudding became popular at Christmas dinners in the early years of the 18th century, and mince pies have been regarded as an indispensable part of the Christmas bill of fare since the time of Pepys, when they were called "mutton-pies".

Thus the Christmas menus of the various residences at McGill will have conformed pretty completely to tradition. The delicious, however, seem to have forgotten one necessary item, — a drink of fairly recent times. It is true, but one of priceless value—the Bromo.

Mr. Claus—P. 3

red miles I began to question Santa again.

"What about the ordinary students of McGill, what can they expect?"

Santa thought awhile, and then suggested, "Maybe I can give them a complete set of answers for their mid-term. On top of this each student will get a wiggle. Also a free gown service for the Christmas graduates."

That I thought wasn't too bad. "But how about soft-cushioned seats in Moyle Hall, or an escalator going up to the top of Peel Street. An elevator in the Arts Building. Real coffee in the coffee served in the Union. Sandwiches with food between the two pieces of thinly sliced bread. Oh, there are hundreds of good presents that could be given the students at McGill."

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